



# CAPROIC ACID

UN 2829

Shipping Name: Caproic acid

Other Names: Butylacetic acid  
Capronic acid  
Hexanoic acid



## Hazards:

- Irritating to skin, eyes, nose and lungs
- Container may BLEVE when exposed to fire
- Vapors are heavier than air and will collect and stay in low areas

## Awareness and Operational Level Training

### Response:

- Stay upwind and uphill
- Determine the extent of the problem
- Isolate the area of release or fire and deny entry
- Remove all ignition sources
- For container exposed to fire evacuate the area in all directions because of the risk of BLEVE
- Notify local health and fire officials and pollution control agencies
- If material or contaminated runoff enters waterways, notify downstream users of potentially contaminated water

## Description:

- Colorless to light yellow oily liquid
- Goat or Limburger cheese-like odor
- Floats on the surface of water and is slightly soluble in water
- Flammable
- Vapors are heavier than air and will collect and stay in low areas
- Freezes at 26° F

## Operational Level Training Response:

### RELEASE, NO FIRE:

- Stop the release if it can be done safely from a distance
- Prevent material and runoff from entering sewers and waterways if it can be done safely well ahead of the release
- Ventilate confined area if it can be done without placing personnel at risk

### FIRE:

- Specially trained personnel operating from a safe distance can fight fires using foam or dry chemical if available in sufficient amounts or use fog streams to extinguish burning liquid. Keep exposures cool to protect against re-ignition. Do not direct straight streams into the liquid.
- Cool exposed containers with large quantities of water from unattended equipment or remove intact containers if it can be done safely
- If cooling streams are ineffective (venting sound increases in volume and pitch, tank discolors or shows any signs of expanding), withdraw immediately to a secure location

## First Aid:

- Provide Basic Life Support/CPR as needed
- Decontaminate the victim as follows:
  - ♦ Inhalation - remove the victim to fresh air and give oxygen if available
  - ♦ Skin - remove and isolate contaminated clothing (including shoes) and wash skin with soap and large volumes of water for 15 minutes
  - ♦ Eye - rinse eyes with large volumes of water or saline for 15 minutes
  - ♦ Swallowed - do not make the victim vomit
- Seek medical attention

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